

May 2013

**NEW AMERICANS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE:
The Political and Economic Power of Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians
in the Granite State**

Immigrants, Latinos, and Asians account for growing shares of the economy and electorate in New Hampshire. Immigrants (the foreign-born) make up more than 1 in 20 Granite Staters, and more than half of them are naturalized U.S. citizens who are eligible to vote. “New Americans”—immigrants and the children of immigrants—account for 5.7% of registered voters in the state. Immigrants not only contribute to the state’s economy as workers, but also account for billions of dollars in tax revenue and consumer purchasing power. Moreover, Latinos and Asians (both foreign-born and native-born) wield \$2.4 billion in consumer purchasing power, and the businesses they own had sales and receipts of more than \$900 million and employed nearly 6,000 people at last count. At a time when the economy is still recovering, New Hampshire can ill-afford to alienate such an important component of its labor force, tax base, and business community.

Immigrants and their children are growing shares of New Hampshire’s population and electorate.

- **The foreign-born share** of New Hampshire’s population rose from 3.7% in [1990](#),¹ to 4.4% in [2000](#),² to 5.6% in [2011](#),³ according to the U.S. Census Bureau. New Hampshire was home to 73,843 immigrants in [2011](#).
- **51.8% of immigrants (or 38,286 people) in New Hampshire were naturalized U.S. citizens** in [2011](#)⁴—meaning that they are eligible to vote.
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **1.2% of the state’s population** (or 15,000 people) in [2010](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.⁵
- **5.7% (or 43,084) of registered voters** in New Hampshire were “New Americans”—naturalized citizens or the U.S.-born children of immigrants who were raised during the current era of immigration from Latin America and Asia which began in 1965—according to an analysis of 2008 Census Bureau data by [Rob Paral & Associates](#).⁶

1 in 20 Granite Staters are Latino or Asian.

- The **Latino share of New Hampshire’s population** grew from 1.0% in [1990](#),⁷ to 1.7% in [2000](#),⁸ to 2.9% (or 38,497 people) in [2011](#).⁹ The **Asian share of the population** grew from 0.8% in [1990](#),¹⁰ to 1.3% in [2000](#),¹¹ to 2.2% (or 29,002 people) in [2011](#),¹² according to the U.S. Census Bureau.
- **Latinos accounted for 1.1% (or 8,000) of New Hampshire voters** in the 2008 elections, according to the [U.S. Census Bureau](#).¹³

- In New Hampshire, **92.4% of children with immigrant parents were U.S. citizens** in [2009](#), according to data from the Urban Institute.¹⁴
- In [2009](#), **89.2% of children in Asian families** in New Hampshire were U.S. citizens, as were **96.1% of children in Latino families**.¹⁵

Latino and Asian entrepreneurs and consumers add billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to New Hampshire's economy.

- **The 2012 purchasing power of Asians in New Hampshire totaled \$1.4 billion**—an increase of 828% since 1990. **Latino buying power totaled \$992 million**—an increase of 584% since 1990, according to the [Selig Center for Economic Growth](#) at the University of Georgia.¹⁶
- New Hampshire's 2,211 [Asian-owned](#) businesses had **sales and receipts of \$733.4 million and employed 5,083 people** in 2007, the last year for which data is available.¹⁷ The state's 1,441 [Latino-owned](#) businesses had **sales and receipts of \$189.4 million and employed 905 people** in 2007, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Business Owners.¹⁸

Immigrants are integral to New Hampshire's economy as workers and taxpayers.

- Immigrants comprised **6.5% of the state's workforce** in [2011](#) (or 47,691 workers), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.¹⁹
- Unauthorized immigrants comprised roughly **1.6% of the state's workforce** (or 10,000 workers) in [2010](#), according to a report by the Pew Hispanic Center.²⁰
- If all unauthorized immigrants were removed from New Hampshire, **the state would lose \$893.2 million in economic activity, \$396.7 million in gross state product, and approximately 5,220 jobs**, even accounting for adequate market adjustment time, according to a report by the [Perryman Group](#).²¹

Unauthorized immigrants pay taxes.

- Unauthorized immigrants in New Hampshire paid **\$5.1 million** in state and local taxes in [2010](#), according to data from the Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy,²² which includes:
 - \$114,119 in state income taxes.
 - \$1.5 million in property taxes.
 - \$3.5 million in sales taxes.

Immigrants are integral to New Hampshire's economy as students.

- New Hampshire's 2,912 **foreign students contributed \$96.4 million** to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses for the 2011-2012 academic year, according to [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#).²³

Naturalized citizens excel educationally.

- In New Hampshire, **39.8% of foreign-born persons** who were naturalized U.S. citizens in [2011](#) had a bachelor's or higher degree.²⁴
- The number of immigrants in New Hampshire with a college degree **increased by 84.4%** between 2000 and 2011, according to [data](#) from the Migration Policy Institute.²⁵
- In New Hampshire, **91.3% of children with immigrant parents** were considered “English proficient” as of [2009](#), according to data from the Urban Institute.²⁶
- The English proficiency rate among **Asian children in New Hampshire was 89.2%**, while for **Latino children it was 88.8%**, as of [2009](#).²⁷

Endnotes

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, [The Foreign-Born Population: 2000](#), December 2003.

² Ibid.

³ 2011 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, February 1, 2011), p. 24.

⁶ Rob Paral & Associates and the Immigration Policy Center, [The New American Electorate: The Growing Political Power of Immigrants and Their Children](#) (Washington, DC: American Immigration Council, October 2010).

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, [The Hispanic Population: 2000](#), May 2001.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ 2011 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, [The Asian Population: 2000](#), February 2002.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² 2011 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

¹³ U.S. Electoral College, [2008 Presidential Election: Popular Vote Totals](#).

¹⁴ [The Urban Institute](#), data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2005 - 2009 American Community Survey.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Jeffrey M. Humphreys, [The Multicultural Economy 2012](#) (Athens, GA: Selig Center for Economic Growth, University of Georgia, 2012).

¹⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, [Estimates of Business Ownership by Gender, Ethnicity, Race, and Veteran Status: 2007](#), June, 2011.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ 2011 American Community Survey (1-Year Estimates).

²⁰ Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, [Unauthorized Immigrant Population: National and State Trends, 2010](#) (Washington, DC: Pew Hispanic Center, February 1, 2011), p. 24.

²¹ The Perryman Group, [An Essential Resource: An Analysis of the Economic Impact of Undocumented Workers on Business Activity in the US with Estimated Effects by State and by Industry](#) (Waco, TX: April 2008), p. 69.

²² The Immigration Policy Center, [Unauthorized Immigrants Pay Taxes, Too](#) (Washington, DC: April 2011).

²³ NAFSA: Association of International Educators, [The Economic Benefits of International Students to the U.S. Economy: Academic Year 2011-2012](#) (Washington, DC: 2012).

²⁴ Migration Policy Institute Data Hub, [New Hampshire: Language & Education](#).

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ [The Urban Institute](#), data from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series datasets drawn from the 2005 - 2009 American Community Survey.

²⁷ Ibid.